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CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
STAMFORD HARBOR
MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH
COMMISSION

Scheduled SHMC meeting on 2/21/2023 via Zoom; called to order at 6:32 PM-Chairman Ortelli presiding.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Dr. Damian Ortelli, Chairman; Commissioners Paul Adelberg; Sam Abernethy; Robert Karp; William Malloy, III; Michael Pensiero; and Russ Hollander, Alternate.
Staff: Frank Fedeli, COS; Sgt. Kevin Fitzgibbons, Stamford Police Dept.; Frank Baldassare, Marina COS; Yale Greenman, Harbor Master; Frank Fumega, Deputy Harbor Master; Geoff Steadman, Consultant; and Maria Vazquez-Goncalves, Recorder.
Absent: Commissioner Ray Redniss, Captain Eric Knott, Online Mooring; Scott Denise, Assistant Marina Supervisor, COS.

1) Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes

- **Commissioner Adelberg moved to approve January 17, 2023 minutes.**
- **Commissioner Abernethy seconded the motion.**
- **Unanimously approved.**

* Chairman Ortelli stated we will be starting with Safety Committee: COS, State of the Harbor.

** Chairman Ortelli stated we will continue out of order and discuss: Committee Reports: Application Review Committee.

2) Chairman's Report

- a) Report from BOR Parks Department, Cove and Cummings Park Review, Thursday, 1/19/23.
- b) Status update on the Stamford Lighthouse.
 - **Commissioner Adelberg moved for Frank Fedeli to reach out to the Blight Department regarding the Stamford Lighthouse.**
 - **Commissioner Abernethy seconded the motion.**
 - **Unanimously approved.**
- c) CSPR 913 Memo from Director Blessing: Status update and report from meeting held 2/7/23.
- d) Update on Water Quality Testing Program from communication with Bureau of Aquaculture.
- e) Discussion on Bill 5614: Placeholder bill 5614 to amend the Harbor Management Act is moving forward in committee and has a proposed public notice going out on 2/22/23. Public Hearing will be held on Monday, 2/28/23.

3) Committee Reports

****Application Review Committee:** Commissioner Karp: Committee met on 2/06/23, next scheduled meeting is 3/06/23.

- Referral of Subdivision Application 4045 – 40 Signal Road & o Thread Needle Lane, Sound Beach Landing, LLC.
 - **Commissioner Adelberg moved to accept the ARC recommendation of no objection pending receipt and review of any comments provided by DEEP; confirmation that prior to amending the Zoning Map as requested by the applicant that the Zoning Board determined that the map amendment would not result in a significant increase in previously allowable residential density in the coastal flood plan; and with the understanding that by reducing the extent of impervious surfaces on the site, the project is expected to significantly improve storm water and water quality conditions on the affected property. In addition, final comments should reflect the HMC’s understanding that the project will cause no impediment or adverse effect on free navigation into and out of Dolphin Cove; there will only be one dock (the existing dock) serving the new properties and that this dock will not be expanded; appropriate covenants will ensure there will be no future littoral rights conflicts between the applicant’s existing dock and the nearby dock serving the adjoining property; and best management practices will be employed during construction to ensure no adverse impacts on environmental quality in the Harbor Management Area, including Dolphin Cove. Commissioner Adelberg amended the motion to include additional comments regarding the stone wall as discussed, including that the applicant will be responsible for maintaining in good condition the stone embankment bordering the applicant’s property alongside Dolphin Cove and that project design and required best management practices will ensure no adverse impacts to that embankment, and therefore no adverse impacts on the Cove during and post-construction.**
 - **Commissioner Pensiero seconded the motion.**
 - **Unanimously approved.**

***Safety Committee:** No meeting.

- Director Louis DeRubeis gave a presentation on the City of Stamford, Harbor Commission Annual State of the Harbor.
- At the end of the State of the Harbor presentation, Commissioner Pensiero made a suggestion to utilize Canal Street funds (received by developer in lieu of 2nd fuel station in the Stamford harbor) to support the funding of a new police boat.

Marina Committee: No meeting.

- Commissioner Hollander discussed Harbor User Fees to support the Harbor.

4) Staff Reports

Financial Review:

- Mr. Fedeli presented his financial report.
- Discussion on the letter to Mr. Wilcox, DEEP, regarding the remediation on the 14-Acre site.

Harbor Master Report:

- Deputy Harbor Master Fumega reported on Amistad Organization returning to Stamford from May 8, 2023 – June 3, 2023.
- Discussion on harbor activities, mooring stickers and harbor fees.
- Commissioner Pensiero stated a meeting will be held on March 2, 2023 regarding maintenance of the Hurricane Barrier.

Marina Supervisor:

- Frank Baldassare reported on his continuous work on the docks.

5) Old Business

- a) Update on the harbor user fees.
- b) Consultant Steadman discussed status update on CHMA/Court Case.
- c) Frank Fedeli updated the Commissioners on the Robert Strada Memorial bench.
- d) Commissioner Karp reported on the Annual Gathering of Shellfish Commissions that was held on January 21, 2023.

6) New Business: None**7) Public Participation: None****8) Next Scheduled Meeting: March 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.****9) Adjournment**

- **Commissioner Adelberg made a motion to adjourn.**
- **Commissioner Karp seconded the motion.**
- **Unanimously approved.**